



## BUYING AND SELLING

ANAND CHOUDRI, KC2KPG—RARA VICE PRESIDENT

I heard on the radio last week that retail sales have plummeted. Stores like Macy's and Nordstrom have taken such a hit that they are closing many stores. Why is this happening?

It is apparent that shoppers are now preferring to buy online rather than in a brick and mortar store. If you buy shoes online without even knowing whether they will fit you or not, I suppose you can buy anything online – even prepared dinners. Why do you buy online – convenience or is it because you think you can get a better deal? Many Hams buy equipment online – will that make Hamfests obsolete? You will say no if you like to sell your stuff at a Hamfest.

Do you want to increase your sales by also selling online?

The topic for our June presentation is quite different from our usual presentations, which are generally related to radio. But we can always make a radio connection. Many of you buy and sell ham equipment at Hamfests. Some of you may want to do that but haven't figured out the best way to go about doing that. Do you want to get some tips and learn some smart ways to go about buying and selling on sites like eBay or even at a Hamfest? Come to the June presentation and hear about what to do and what not to do.

Our speaker will be John Russo KW2JR, a Board member of the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club. John specializes in selling and buying at Hamfests and on eBay. He will also give us a demo on how to list stuff for sale on eBay and how best to go about bidding for stuff on eBay.

Our Hamfest will be over before the meeting, but come on by so you can learn what to do for the next Hamfest or how to unload all the stuff you bought at a Hamfest on eBay.

Please join us for something different on Wednesday June 7, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Boy Scouts building located at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd, Brighton, NY 14623.

JUNE 2017  
VOLUME 69, ISSUE 10

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# PREZ SEZ

FOREST SHICK, WA2MZG—RARA PRESIDENT

## Rochester Hamfest 2017

Here we are, hours away from the Rochester Hamfest 2017 at Walnut Hill Farm. So many things to do in preparation, so many things to do during and so many things to do after. Please volunteer.

As a Thank You for officially volunteering, hamfest volunteers receive Membership Reward points. To make your "volunteering" official, we need your name and call sign. Details about membership points are on the RARA web site, Membership Rewards page.

## Country Store

Last year's Country Store was a great success because of the donated, working amateur radio equipment. There will be a Country Store this year. To make this year's Country Store a success, we are asking for donations of working, in good condition amateur radio equipment.

If it is sitting around the shack and not being used, please consider donating that old working radio, power supply, antenna, key, bug or other usable and once valuable to you piece of equipment.

## Membership Reward Points

As has been stated at previous times, reward points are a Thank You for volunteering and helping our club with an event or activity. Reward points are NOT payment for services rendered. You must be a RARA member to receive membership reward points. There are many opportunities to earn reward points. Check out all the Public Service activities that Mike Moore is organizing and support his efforts.

Sometimes the question is: "What do I do with the reward points?" As in the past, you can renew your RARA membership or redeem your reward points for RARA Banquet tickets.

As of January you may also redeem reward points for gift certificates from the ARRL Store, Ham Radio Outlet and Universal Radio. Gift certificates are available in \$10 increments - 20 reward points. Please contact Tim Barrett, RARA Membership Secretary, if you are interested in the gift certificates.

## Public Service

To keep up to date on, and to volunteer for, Public Service events, check out the Public Service page on the RARA web site. It looks like the first public service opportunity is Saturday June 10 for the Tour de Cure. Please volunteer.

## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

RARA will again be participating in this fun event at the Charlotte Lighthouse on August 19 & 20. Tim Brown and David Timmons will be coordinating activities.

## RAG Articles

The RAG can only be as good as the information and articles provided by you, the members. We all have our own version of participating in amateur radio. If you build something, if you learn something, if you find an interesting web site, share the information. You will help someone.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> - ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2017**

7:00 AM at Walnut Hill Farm, 397 W. Bloomfield Rd, Pittsford, NY

**JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> - RARA General Meeting**

7:00 PM at BSA Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> - RARA Board of Directors**

5:30 PM at BSA Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

## Being Noticed

Do you just want to be noticed in the crowd?  
All kinds of stuff going on around you?  
People OOOHing and AAAHing over this idea or that!

Well why not do something about it?

Our very own Don Kiser, AC2EV, did just that. He was noticed. He built a bird house.

You will notice the picture to the right is from the June 2017 issue of QST, page 20.



On the theme of being noticed, Bob Nezelek, W2CNS, is mentioned on page 41 of the same issue.

## Congratulations

Speaking of being noticed, Steve Fell, K2SRF, was recently recognized for his dedication to scouting. 60 years of volunteering.

We are fortunate to have Steve as a member of RARA.

Steve would like to add that it has actually been 62 years AND he even had scout troops while he was in the Navy from 1965 to 1969.

Well done Steve - CONGRATULATIONS

## Spring Brings Birds in Need of Homes

You could help your winged friends by simply buying a birdhouse at your nearest home improvement store, but Don Kiser, AC2EV, put his imagination to work and repurposed a vintage capacitor tester. Don says the circuitry was unsalvageable, so with some help from his son, he turned it into an avian condo, complete with dual shafts for perching.



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# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2017

This year's Hamfest committee is working hard to get the final touches ready for the event. There's still a lot of work to do, but we're very excited to invite you to another great Hamfest.

First, we want to thank our friends at Walnut Hill Farm for letting us use their field. We'd also like to thank all the RARA volunteers that take their time to work the Walnut Hill event in August; you are a huge part of why we have access to their field for this year's Hamfest.

Now, more about the Hamfest!

Gates will open at 6am on Saturday June 3rd.

General parking is free. Admission is \$1 for members, \$7 for non-members, and free for those under 18 or with a student ID. Bringing your vehicle into the flea market is a flat rate of \$10.

We will have VEs proctoring FREE exams for three different sessions throughout the day.

We have almost \$3,000 in raffle and door prizes. Keep your eyes peeled for the special Hamfest Edition of the RAG for more details.

Of course there will be hundreds of other hams to socialize with, learn from, and get a great deal on something they don't need anymore.

The event this year is in a field. The grass will be mowed down, but be prepared for an imperfect surface.

Please keep an eye on <http://rochesterhamfest.org/Hamfest.htm> for any last-minute updates or send an e-mail to [hfproducer@rochesterham.org](mailto:hfproducer@rochesterham.org) with any questions you may have.

Lastly, the success of the Hamfest depends on our volunteers. Thanks in advance for your help. And if you haven't signed up, there's not much time left, we could always use more hands.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,  
Your Hamfest Committee:

Tim Guyot  
Tim Barrett  
Anand Choudri





# UPDATE: THE COUNTRY STORE AT WALNUT HILL FARM

\*\*\*\* You are the key to the Country Store Success. Read on... \*\*\*\*

CAN YOU PERFORM A SHAMELESS DEED OR TWO? (JUST BLAME ME.)

CALL THREE OF YOUR HAM FRIENDS WHO HAVE "STUFF" AND ASK EACH TO DONATE TWO HAM ITEMS THEY WILL PROBABLY NEVER-EVER PLUG IN AGAIN.

THEN ASK THEM TO CALL ONE FRIEND TO DO THE SAME.

WHEN THEY SAY "YES" TO DONATING,

ASK THEM TO EMAIL THE ITEM INFO TO ME, AT <[whopkin4@naz.edu](mailto:whopkin4@naz.edu)>

THEY CAN SIMPLY GIVE NAME, CALLSIGN AND THE ITEM DESCRIPTION,  
NOTHING ELSE REQUIRED

**EXCEPT !!!! ----> BRING THE ITEM/S TO THE HAMFEST ON SAT., JUNE 3**

FOR DONATION TO OUR RARA COUNTRY STORE TABLE.

IF THEY WANT TO SELL "THEIR" ITEM THROUGH OUR STORE, THAT IS ALSO ACCEPTABLE.

THANKS & 73'S  
Bill Hopkins, AA2YV

# RARA AND SENECA WATERWAYS HOST RADIO MERIT BADGE CLASS

Mark Pedersen, KC2UES and Jon Dickason, N2JAC

**Pittsford, New York.** RARA uses the headquarters building of Seneca Waterways Boy Scout Council for its meetings, so when Dave Cheney, the Council Program Director, asked if RARA could produce a radio merit badge class, the board responded: "Yes." Twenty Scouts earned the radio merit badge on Saturday, April 29, from 0900 until 1500.

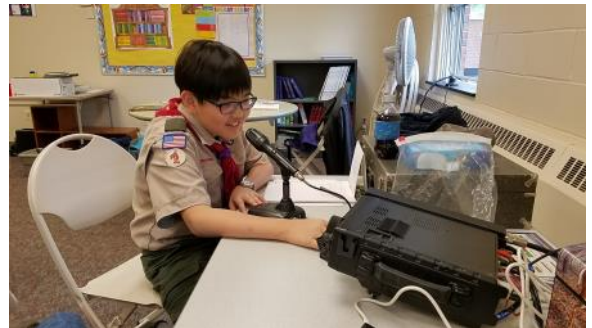
The class was originally scheduled for the headquarters building, but it was already booked for the original date, and the alternate date. Fortunately, the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford offered its spaces for two classes and a radio room, as well as fox hunting on the grounds outside.



On Friday, Tim Brown set up a dipole antenna outside to support HF communications. He tested the bands with SSB mode, but made no contacts. When he switched to CW, however, he made a contact right away with a station calling CQ DX from France. "Great," he said, "now we know we can work DX." Saturday's band conditions, however, required an alternate plan. Also in the radio room on Saturday was Stephen Fell, with his all band, all mode radio, and Jon Dickason, with his KX-3 as well as his fox hunting equipment.

Mike Moore and Brian O'Connor were the instructors, each with a good-size group of Scouts. Eighteen Scouts preregistered, some from Buffalo, and 20 showed up for the merit badge. Tim Guyot assisted with fox hunting, mixing lemonade, obtaining ice, monitoring the halls, and recording the boys' accomplishments on the master roster.

The HF bands were poor on Saturday. One Scout checked into a net in central Virginia on 40 meters, but after that, we couldn't raise anyone on that band, or 20 meters (the two bands the dipole supported). We turned to Mike Rink's WR2ROC repeater at 146.790, IRLP 4252, linked to a station in Florida, for some DX communications. Several of the Scouts talked to the friendly voice in Mayport, a former Scout, who mentioned the 94 degree temperature there. In all, each Scout was able to meet the requirement for making a radio QSO.



Jon conducted four groups of fox hunters using directional Yagi antennas, and the body shield method to find the fox, which transmitted Jon's call sign every minute. Though it was a cool day, the boys liked getting outside and hunting and were able to follow Jon's instructions on how to use the radios to find the transmitter.

Council provided four sheet pizzas from Mark's (a big Scouting supporter), most of which disappeared in 30 minutes. Perhaps it was because the delivery address given to the driver was in Henrietta, so he had to be turned around and delivered in Pittsford about 45 minutes late.

Working with the youth in Scouting is beneficial to them, and to RARA. We get to advance interest in radio communications, especially HAM radio, and the youth benefit from the years of experience and education of our teaching members.



Photos by: Jon Dickason and Mike Moore - Thank You for the many great pictures.



# DAYTON HAMFEST

Forest Shick, WA2MZG



The new venue for the Dayton Hamvention was excellent. Fond memories from the "old days" at Hara Arena may cloud your judgement but this new location was clean, fresh, well maintained, good adjective, good adjective, good adjective!

The flea market was at one end. The commercial vendors and food services were in the center. Some parking was on the other end. Parking off site was enhanced by a shuttle service to and from the hamfest. There were onsite shuttles for



people who needed assistance from the parking lot or around the hamfest. There were a lot of security and emergency personnel.

Arriving Friday morning was a big problem. It took over 1 hour to travel the last 0.7 miles into the fair grounds. Saturday the traffic flow was perfect - it took only a few minutes to drive through town and into the fair grounds. The organizers saw a problem and fixed it over night. Excellent team work.

Finally - everything was clean, even the porta potties. Crews were cleaning them throughout the day.

It was great traveling with friends, it was great meeting friends there and great meeting new friends. Tim, Irv, Bill, Lynn, Stan, Roy, Charlie, Gary, Alex, Ben, Dan, Chris, Gail, Wayne, Ron, Steve, Tim, Cathy, Brian, Jay and many others I do not remember right now were all part of the experience.

We made our base of operation the RDXA tent. I apologize for not taking a picture of the RDXA tent.

While walking around visiting the different vendors, I took the opportunity to thank many of the companies that donated to our hamfest prizes last year and this: Elecraft, Gifts4Hams, Nuts and Volts & Sensors, Radio Society of Great Britain, Bird, and West Mountain Radio.





# Rochester Hamfest

information, go to [www.schematheek.eu](http://www.schematheek.eu)

For anyone visiting the New York area in June, the Rochester Hamfest takes place in the USA on 3 June at Walnut Hill Farm, West Bloomfield Road, Pittsford, NY 14534. The Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States, with over 500 members. They have been sponsoring the RARA Hamfest since 1927.



At the RSGB booth, I introduced myself to Mark. Mark is the person who provided us with books for last year's hamfest. He quickly pulled out the June issue of RadCom and opened it to page 12. At the bottom of page 12, in the last half inch of page 12, is a short article on this years Rochester Hamfest. What a surprise! After that bit of excitement, well, let's just say the rainstorm did not dampen my enthusiasm.



I have forgotten what Midwest storms were like. I went to college in Fort Wayne, Indiana - a while ago.

Friday was hot and humid.

Saturday was a different story. It was overcast and cool.

Then there was a PA announcement that a severe storm was arriving in 10 minutes and that it would last for 20 minutes. Everyone should seek shelter immediately. The storm arrived in 10 minutes. It lasted for 20 minutes and the thunder sounded like a drum roll on a bass drum! I was lucky to find shelter in the beer pavilion.

And then there was MUD!



Rainstorm? Woodstock? Similarity?

I found a very refreshing approach by many vendors. Instead of the usual - you have to buy my product. The usual became - are you interested in my product, may I explain my product to you, would you like to hear more about my product - very nice!

Over the next year, I'm sure you will hear stories of the adventures at this years Hamvention. In my opinion it was a great location and hopefully the beginning of a great new tradition for the Hamvention.



# XARC SPRING 2017 FOX HUNT RESULTS

Brian Donovan, K2AS

The XRX Amateur Radio Club held their spring Fox Hunt on Saturday May 17th. The skies looked as if it might rain at any minute, but only a couple of short sprinkles were felt. Five teams took part in the hunt, with the only solo effort this time being Chris KC2VCK.

Four 2 meter FM transmitters were hidden for this hunt. Fox #1 was located off a trail in Gosnells Woods near Vosberg Road in West Webster. It was at the top of a ridge and surrounded by some deep gulleys and ended up being quite a challenge, even for experienced hunters. Fox #2 was running a bit more power, and was not too far away at Irondequoit Bay Marine Park. This site was not that difficult, but the route coming from the other side of the bay is a bit roundabout. So to speak. Fox #3 was on a hill off Orchard Park Blvd in Irondequoit Bay Park West. Fox #4 was at the southern end of the bay, just a couple hundred yards into Lucien Morin Park, and conveniently located by McGregors.

First place went to the father and son duo of Bill Kurrasch K2WEK and Paul Kurrasch KC2GTO. 2nd place went to Jon Dickason N2JAC and Bob Karz K2OID. 3rd place went to Chris Warner KC2VCK.

Though this hunt ended up being more difficult than anticipated, I think every team found at least one fox, and probably learned what not to do next time! See you again this autumn.

## MEMORIES

Larry Lavery, WW2J

My first exposure to Amateur radio was a visit with my uncle W2COJ on Hampton Blvd. in Greece. I don't know if he was a member of the local DX group but I suspect he was. He was employed at the RG&E BeeBee station.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC 209

### SUMMARY OF MOUNT WILSON MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS OF SUNSPOTS FOR MARCH AND APRIL, 1940

The mean number of spot-groups observed daily in March and April was greater than in any month from October 1939 to March 1940.

Group No. 6725,<sup>1</sup> which developed into a very large group early in January 1940, was observed from December 31, 1939, to April 22, 1940, an interval of 114 days. Whether it was still present after April 22 is not known, since clouds prevented solar observations at Mount Wilson from April 22 to 27. On its fourth appearance in March, a large active group, No. 6783 (Plate XV), preceded it by 10°.

This active group was associated with intense magnetic activity from March 23 to April 3, described on page 169 of these *Publications*. The only other magnetic activity in March and April was a moderate storm on April 25-26. On April 25 the large group of March, which had returned as No. 6814, was 40° (3 days) west of the central meridian.

#### NUMBER OF SUNSPOT GROUPS OBSERVED DAILY

MARCH				APRIL			
Day	No. of Groups	Day	No. of Groups	Day	No. of Groups	Day	No. of Groups
1	7	16	6	1	-	16	5
2	6	17	7	2	9	17	7
3	7	18	5	3	10	18	7
4	8	19	-	4	7	19	7
5	7	20	7	5	-	20	9
6	6	21	8	6	5	21	10
7	7	22	9	7	7	22	8
8	7	23	10	8	9	23	-
9	4	24	12	9	6	24	-
10	-	25	12	10	7	25	-
11	6	26	12	11	6	26	-
12	5	27	10	12	4	27	-
13	8	28	10	13	4	28	4
14	8	29	-	14	7	29	3
15	6	30	8	15	-	30	3
		31	-				

Mean 7.7

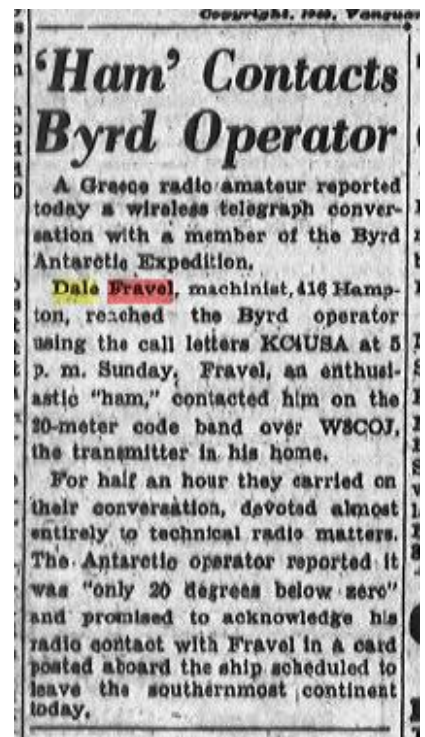
Mean 6.5

<sup>1</sup> Pub. A.S.P., 52, 148, 1940.

He died in 1949 so I had to be less than 7 years old when I visited him. I recall the shack out behind the house which was a converted chicken coop. Of course the glowing tubes, lights and sounds made a lasting impression. I don't recall any Yagi antennas or towers, just wire antennas strung across the yard but I do remember seeing the open wire ladder line.

I came across this article in the newspaper archives where he worked the Byrd Expedition in the Antarctic on 20 meter CW in March 1940. I wondered what the conditions were like then and found the sunspot activity was so great it wiped out communications a few weeks after his QSO. The aurora was so bright in New Jersey that people thought the town was on fire. I am a bit surprised the noise level didn't make the contact impossible.

Dale's son, Dale Jr was N2OTC, his daughter is WA2KIS and his grandson is N2LWY. Must be in the genes...



**March 1940** The first reported incidences of power grid problems due to solar activity occurred all across the Northeast, from Pennsylvania through New England, and in Minnesota, Ontario, and Quebec. At the same time, nearly all overseas radio telephones and long-distance land telephones failed for a number of days.

# RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

## 20 YEARS AGO, JUNE, 1997

A new site was selected by your Board of Directors for the 1997 Annual RARA Summer Picnic and you are invited to "idyllic Ellison Park," wrote George Lloyd, N2UIO. The RARA VE Team reported that 48 applicants, trying 84 separate exam elements, were processed through the just completed testing at the 1997, Rochester Hamfest. Also from the Hamfest was the report that Kay Craigie, WT3P, Director of ARRL Atlantic Division, announced that Joseph Nunemaker, KD3VR, was selected as Amateur of the Year. Further it was reported that Gerald Gavin, NU3D was given the "Grand Ole Ham" award along with Ron Raposo, N2JAW, who received the "Technical Achievement" award. With thanks to NYS ARRL Public Information Officer Stephan Anderman, WA3RKB, who made the arrangements, Governor George Pataki proclaimed the month of June as Amateur Radio Month in the Empire State. From the Want Ads you could buy a Kenwood TS-870S for \$1600 from Dick Kessler, K2SZE. Patrick Moyer, N2AIW, Attorney and Counselor-at-Law, remained a long term advertiser.

## The RARA RAG

Published by  
The Rochester Amateur Radio Association  
INCORPORATED

VOL. 29 JUNE 1977 NO. 10

### Florida Trip Planned -- Next Winter

One of the very best things about living in our part of the world is our ability to leave the frigid weather behind in February and take a vacation in the warm Southland.

Although it may be warm and comfortable now, you can be assured that another winter will be upon us sooner than we wish.

On the weekend of February 16 through 19, 1978, you will be able to get away from the cold Northland and spend an extended weekend in Orlando and Disney World. You'll even be able to attend the annual Orlando Hamfest, held that weekend.

Plans are being drawn up now to form a tour group of RARA members and their friends. We will fly from Rochester to Orlando on the morning of Thursday, February 16. Return to Rochester is on Sunday evening, February 19. The three night stay in Orlando will be at the Sheraton Twin Towers site of the Hamfest. Also included will be a day at Disney World and/or the Kennedy Space Center. A car rental will also be included. IF - we get at least 40 to make the tour, we can get a special price of approximately \$250 per person. The price includes the air fare, hotel, car rental, and admission to Disney World. To accommodate a group our size, we must have space reserved by Labor Day.

SEND - a card or note (no phone calls, please) to Harold Smith, WA2KND, 153 Mason Avenue, Rochester, NY 14626. List the names and addresses of people who are interested to take advantage of the offer. Remember, it is open to RARA members and their friends. Send your card today.

When enough have signed up for the tour, we will have our travel agent arrange the details. If the magic 40 number is not achieved, you will be advised -- if you have indicated an interest.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS MUSEUM  
on the Common  
East Bloomfield, N. Y.  
Hours: now thru October 31  
Sundays - 2 to 5 p.m.  
Wednesdays - 7 to 9 p.m.  
Other times may be arranged for group visits,  
contact Charles Brelsford, K2WW at 244-9519  
for appointment.

### GOOD NEWS - BAD NEWS

At the Annual Meeting of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, held each May, there was good news and not so good news.

First the good news... officers and board members were voted to office for the 1977-78 season. Elected were:

President: Edward Gable, K2MP (W2MPM)  
Vice-President: Leonard Gessin, WA2ZNC  
Treasurer: Ronald Jakubowski, K2RJ  
Secretary: Otto Bluntzer, WB2RBJ

Board members:  
James Collinsworth, N2JC (WB2EDT)  
Robert Erskine, W2NVZ  
Edwin Holdsworth, WA2EKR  
Howard Kingsford, WA2UEB  
Alan Kominski, WB2ZFM  
Frederick Shippey, WA2BQA  
Harold Smith, WA2KND

The not so good news... it was unanimously approved by the membership that the dues be raised. For the upcoming season, dues are \$6.00 for regular memberships; \$3.00 for associate (unlicensed) memberships; and \$1.00 additional for each member of a family applying for family membership. The special rate applies only to members of a family residing in the same household. \$1.00 of the dues paid for regular or associate memberships is your subscription to the RARA Rag. Family members will not receive a copy of the Rag unless an additional dollar is paid for their own copy.

This is the first dues increase in many years. The RARA officers and board members are to be commended for keeping our dues so low for so long. As a matter of interest, the national average radio club dues are much higher than ours.

### RARA Takes a Vacation

Each summer the Rochester Amateur Radio Association -- and the RARA Rag takes its vacation during the months of July and August. There are no formal activities scheduled during that time.

Club meetings will resume in September. The fall meeting schedule will be listed in the September edition of the Rag.

An amateur licensing class will start up in the fall. Interested people should send a card to the club post office box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603.



## the RARA RAG

Published by  
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 49

June 1997

NO. 10

### ANNUAL RaRa PICNIC JUNE 21st, Noon to ?

In order to enjoy more of the beauty of the Monroe County Parks system, the Board of Directors has selected the site for this years picnic to be at idyllic Ellison Park. You can find Ellison Park by taking the Blossom Road exit from RT 590 North. The exit is just north of the old car 'o' worms. Blossom Road also intersects with Winton Road, in case you prefer not to take the expressway. Take Blossom Road to the East, away from downtown. Ellison Park has several entrances, please use the second entrance on the right (as you travel Eastward) for easy access to the picnic site. Once in the park, follow the signs to the South Lodge.

Ellison Park provides a lot of shade trees, a flowing stream, and plenty of places to re-fill water guns. It is common to see wild animals if you go for a quiet walk away from the lodge. Bring your baseball gloves, bats, and balls and we'll get a ball game going too.

Nourishment and soft drinks are provided by RaRa.

Anyone NOT bringing at least one legal minor MAY be subject to being assigned garbage detail!

### RaRa SUMMER PICNIC

June 21, 1997

12:00 P.M.

Ellison Park

Blossom Road

South Lodge

### Amateur of the Year

By Kay Craigie, WT3P

The Atlantic Division's 1997 "Amateur of the Year" is Joseph Nunemaker KD3VR, from Seabrook, MD. A past president of the Green Mountain Repeater Association, Joe has invested countless hours installing, maintaining, and upgrading the two repeaters which serve the associations 225 members in the Washington metropolitan area. In June 1996, he was the Foundation for Amateur Radio's "Ham of the Month."

Joe is always ready to help fellow Amateurs solve technical problems, install antennas and station equipment, and fix anything that's broken. He simply loves working with radios, and no problem is too difficult or too much bother for him to trouble-shoot.

Joe has developed a special course of electronic instruction for children. His basic electricity course for the fourth grade at Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School in Bowie, MD, makes learning electronics fun. He has constructed demonstration devices that give the kids hands-on experience with the principles they're learning. Who knows how many of these children will someday become hams and enter careers in electronics because Joe donated his time and effort to teaching them? In the community, Joe sponsors cadets from the nearby U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Hundreds of miles from home, these young people in the service of our country find in Joe a friend

Continued on page 2

### HAMFEST VE TESTING

RaRa VE Testing finalized its 96/97 schedule with an exceptional turn out at the '97 ROCHESTER RaRa HAMFEST testing session on May 31 '97.

In total 48 applicants were tested requiring 84 separate exam elements. Applicants came from a large section of the Northeast including Vermont, Pennsylvania, and also a visitor to the area from Texas

RaRa VE Testing will resume with its 97/98 schedule beginning the fourth Saturday in September - 9-27-98.

See you then

## 40 YEARS AGO, JUNE, 1977

A grand experiment was announced with the exciting news of a RARA trip to Florida for 40 lucky first come first served travelers. The date in February includes entry to the Orlando Hamfest as well as Disney World or the Kennedy Space Center. Three days at the Hamfest hotel, entry fees and a car rental for \$250.00. At the just completed annual meeting members elected the following officers for 1977/78: President Ed Gable K2MP, VP Len Gessin WA2ZNC, Treasurer Ron Jakubowski K2RJ and Secretary Otto Bluntzer WB2RJB. To the Board of Directors: Jim Collinsworth N2JC, Bob Erskine W2NVZ, Ed Holdsworth WA2EKR, Howard Kingsford WA2UEB, Alan Kominski WB2ZFM, Fred Shippey WA2BQA and Harold Smith WA2KND. President Gable's first official act was to increase the dues to six dollars. It was reported that during the 1977 Rochester Hamfest ARRL President Harry Daniels, W2HD, presented the Atlantic Division "Amateur of the Year" award to Vivian Douglas, WA2PUU. Ed Valmore, K2EVJ, writing for the Rochester VHF Group reports that their general elections resulted in

Floyd Koontz, WA2WVL, elected Chairman with Ray Leigh, W2SNI, to the Vice Chair slot and Rick Hambly, WB2TNL as Secty/Treasurer. It was further written that the gang from W2CNS/3 had excellent results with their trip to Delaware for the June VHF contest where they almost completed six meter WAS via enhanced e-layer propagation. This issue also told of the twenty-one local hardy folks who gathered and travelled down to Wellsboro, PA, to assist in communications for the Susquehannock Trail Pro Rally. With regret it was written that Leech Fifield (Fi) WB2NJE, was reported a silent key. There were no Want Ads in this issue but Tire World of Greece, Ray Roberts, WA2SSU manager, was a long term commercial advertiser.



## VE TEAM

The next **ALWAYS FREE** testing session:  
Saturday June 3rd at the Rochester Hamfest. Testing  
starts at 7:30AM.

To avoid giving your SSN go to:

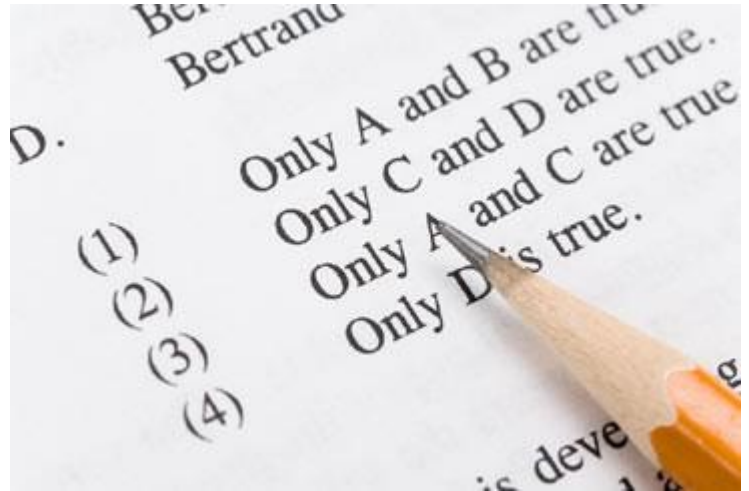
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

Register and bring the resultant FRN.

For more info:

<https://www.laurelvec.com/?team=RARA>

Don Kiser - AC2EV  
RARA Board member  
VE Team Leader  
585-613-1035



New licensees names are in **BOLD**

RARA members names are in **GREEN**



# RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

June 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> NRAU 10m Contest NCCC Sprint	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>RARA Hamfest</b> <b>Walnut Hill Farm</b> <b>Pittsford</b> 10-10 PSK Contest Digifest
<b>4</b> Digifest IARU Rg1 Field Day RSGB Field Day AL QSO Party	<b>5</b> ARS Spartan Sprint	<b>6</b> Phone Fray	<b>7</b> <b>RaRa Monthly Mtg 7:00pm,</b> <b>BSA HQ, B'ton Henrietta</b> <b>TLR</b>	<b>8</b> <b>RaRa BoD Meeting</b> <b>5:30pm, BSA HQ, B'ton</b> <b>Henrietta TLR</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Tour de Cure</b> DRCG RTTY Ctst SKCC Sprintathon ARRL VHF Contest Portugal Day Ctst
<b>11</b> DRCG RTTY Ctst SKCC Sprintathon ARRL VHF Contest Portugal Day Ctst	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Phone Fray	<b>14</b> <b>SIARC 7.30pm</b>	<b>15</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> SMIRK Contest Ukraine RTTY Ctst All Asia DX CW Ctst IARU Rg1 6M Ctst StewPerry 160M Cst
<b>18</b> <b>ARRL Kids Day</b> SMIRK Contest Ukraine RTTY Ctst All Asia DX CW Ctst IARU Rg1 6M Ctst StewPerry 160M Cst	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>RDXA 7.30pm</b> Phone Fray	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>ARRL Field Day</b> Battle of Carabobo Ctst King of Spain Ctst Ukraine Digi Ctst
<b>25</b> <b>ARRL Field Day</b> Battle of Carabobo Ctst King of Spain Ctst Ukraine Digi Ctst	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Phone Fray	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>30</b>	

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

## SAVE THE DATES

**Winterfest** - Saturday February 10, 2018 - Stewart Lodge, Mendon Ponds Park

**Picnic** - Saturday July 8, 2017 - Mendon Ponds Park, West Lodge

**Banquet** - Friday September 22, 2017- Burgundy Basin Inn

# NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

## MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, June 22, 2017, at 6:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)



### ARES NET:

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**WEB:** [www.monroecountyemcomm.org](http://www.monroecountyemcomm.org)

### Severe Weather Alerts:

Winter brings severe weather in the form of heavy snow and strong winds. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads)

### NBEMS:

Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2017.

## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA invites you to attend its June 16, 2017 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 pm.

RRRA's Officer election is June 16th. RRRRA will be accepting nominations for Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary prior to the election. The election will determine the club officers for 2017 - 2018. After the election the program will be on volunteering. RRRRA needs volunteer examiners and volunteers to help with its upcoming August 19 hamfest. We will discuss what is involved in becoming a ARRL VE and what tasks need to be done as a hamfest volunteer. We will be available to answer your questions and accept your help. If you need info or want to volunteer, our hamfest email is [2017.rrra.hamfest@gmail.com](mailto:2017.rrra.hamfest@gmail.com) You can also contact Bob, N2HJD on the Megaplex if you prefer.

The current RRRRA officers for 2016 - 2017 are Bob Odell, N2BZX-President, Bob Shewell, N2HJD-Vice President, ED Wilkonski, KC2WM-Secretary, and Bob Smith, NS2B-Treasurer / Membership Chairman.

RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site [www.k2rra.org](http://www.k2rra.org)

## ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

For information on the Rochester VHF Group, visit our website [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) for details.

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

The Rochester DX Association was established June 9, 1947 and is celebrating it's 70th year in 2017.

**June 17, 1400Z – 2200Z, W2RDX/70,**  
East Rochester, NY. Rochester DX Association. **70th Anniversary of the Rochester DX Association.** 14.286 7.290 3.880. QSL. Irv J. Goodman, AF2K, 515 Drumm Rd., Webster, NY 14580. [www.rdxa.com](http://www.rdxa.com)

RDXA meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month (September through May) except for December, which is the Annual Holiday Banquet. Meetings are open to everyone and all are encouraged to attend.

Meetings are held at the Monroe County EOC 1190 Scottsville Rd. (second floor), Rochester, NY 14624 at 7:30PM.

Monthly programs are announced in the official RDXA newsletter or on the website at [www.RDXA.com](http://www.RDXA.com)

## XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The next meeting of the XRX Amateur Radio Club will be at 6PM on Thursday June 8 at the Webster Recreation Association. Besides the usual business, we will discuss our Field Day plans. This year, we will be having Field Day at the Webster Recreation Center. Stop by on Field Day Weekend June 24th and 25th.

Details at <http://xarc.us>

## SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be June 14th. There will not be License Exam testing this month. 73's Steve Benton VP SIARC WB2VMR

## AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Town & Country Fire house in Horseheads. C-CARES meets the first Tuesday of the month except February. C-CARES covers the entire area in Chemung , Schuyler and Steuben Counties and everyone is welcome.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for this year's hamfest September 30, 2017 located at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads , NY.

Our website is undergoing construction. However I understand that until the re-write is complete, it will still be usable. So go ahead and check out our website at [www.arast.org](http://www.arast.org) .

## COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7pm. Each meeting has a brief training/refreshers period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9pm (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30pm on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in! Take a look at the club website for more info: [www.k2srv.org](http://www.k2srv.org)

## DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communications modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and public [DSTAR hotspots](#) (using the dvprtr board), Yaesu fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR. The last mode is being enjoyed locally through a [DV-Mega-Raspberry PI](#) combination. DCAP meets for breakfast at 7am nearly every Saturday morning at [Rikki's Family Restaurant](#) in Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL of 110.9 Hz.



## WESTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The mission of the Westside Amateur Radio Club is to provide emergency communications services to the community, to assist other civic organizations, to promote the technical craft of amateur radio through class training and testing, to mentor new members, and enhance fellowship among radio amateurs.

The Westside Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Chili Public Library. The Library is located at 3333 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624.

The talk in repeater for all meetings is the K2RWC Repeater 146.700MHz - 110.9

Website: <http://WestsideAmateurRadio.club>

## INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

- Friday, June 2, 7pm: Rochester 2600 - Information Security and Hacking meetup - <http://www.rochester2600.com/>
- Tuesday, June 6, 7pm: Member Meeting & Presentations & Open House, open to the public
- Saturday, June 17, 12pm to 4pm: Linux Workshop - a casual afternoon gathering of Linux beginners and experts

Also check out our friends at AdaSpace <<http://adaspace.org/>>, Rochester's hackerspace for women; and at TOOOOL Rochester <<https://www.tooolroc.org/>>, the Open Organization Of Lockpickers.

Interlock Rochester is open most every Tuesday night at 7pm. We're in the Hungerford Building (1115 East Main Street, Rochester NY), just north of Village Gate. Come to Door #7 (to the left of Comics Etc) and buzz Suite 200. Want to know more? Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>, contact us at [info@interlockroc.org](mailto:info@interlockroc.org), or find us in #interlock on Freenode IRC.

## GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Email [n3dsp@lafireline.net](mailto:n3dsp@lafireline.net) for details.

## ROCHESTER MAKERSPACE

The Rochester Makerspace is located at the rear of 850 St. Paul Street in almost 4,000 square feet of workspace. We are a volunteer-run 501c(3) nonprofit organization and our mission is to encourage learning, creativity and collaboration. We do that by providing low-cost and free access to sophisticated tools, offering a wide variety of classes, and by providing opportunities for "makers," artists and crafts persons of all kinds to meet and learn from each other.

Drop in to explore, learn and make at our weekly open house:

Every Thursday Night, 6 to 10 PM – Weekly Community Night & Open House

Every Saturday, 11 AM to 3 PM – Weekly Community & Open House

Park in the lot at Scrantom St. and Conkey Ave. and follow the signs.

Every Thursday Night, 7 to 9:30 PM – Microcontrollers & Robotics Meetup

A ham bench is set up with a 2 meter FM radio and a laptop with websdr. Waiting for nicer weather to install outside antennas for the Heathkit HW101 transceiver and Kenwood all mode 2 meter transceiver. Donations of ham equipment accepted.

For more information visit [Rochestermakerspace.org](http://Rochestermakerspace.org)

# HAMFESTS

## ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2017

Saturday June 3, 2017

<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/Hamfest.htm>

RAGS Hamfest

Sunday July 9, 2017

<http://www.ragsclub.org/hamfest.html>

Batavia Hamfest

Saturday July 15, 2017

<http://w2so.org/batavia-hamfest/>

Ithaca Hamfest

Saturday August 5, 2017

<http://tcara-ny.org/hamfest/>

RRRA Hamfest at Barnard

Saturday August 19, 2017

Lancaster Hamfest

Saturday September 9, 2017

<http://w2so.org/lancaster-hamfest/>

Elmira Hamfest

Saturday September 30, 2017

[http://www.arast.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=6](http://www.arast.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=6)



## ***RAGS 2017 Hamfest***

### ***Sunday, July 9, 2017***

Talk-In 146.91/31 pl 103.5

**Great Location!!**  
A/C and Paved Tailgating  
American Legion Post 787  
5575 Legionnaire Drive  
Cicero, NY  
7:00A Setup / 7:30A Open  
7:30A-12:30P  
Breakfast & Lunch  
V.E. Session  
9:00A

**DIRECTIONS**

- From N: I-81 S to exit 30, west on Rt. 31 to Legionnaire Dr., then right
- From S: I-81 N to exit 30, west on Rt. 31 to Legionnaire Dr., then right
- From E: I-90 W to exit 36. I-81 N to exit 30, west on Rt. 31 to Legionnaire Dr., then right
- From W: I-90 E to exit 36. I-81N to exit 30, west on Rt. 31 to Legionnaire Dr., then right

**FCC Exams 9:00A**  
**ARRL VE Team**  
Bring \$15 Exact Cash Or M.O.  
and Photo ID. If upgrade,  
bring original  
License & CSCE if applicable.

**ATM on Site!!**

**Free General Parking**  
**\$5 Admission \$5 Outdoor Space**  
**\$8 Indoor Tables**

### **Grand Prizes!!**

**Winners Need Not Be Present**

<b>\$500</b>	<b>25A Power Supply</b>	<b>6m/2m/70cm</b>
<b>Gift Certificate</b>	<b>&amp; Power Panel</b>	<b>Base Antenna</b>
<b>Universal Radio</b>	<b>Jetstream JTPS30M</b>	<b>Diamond</b>
	<b>MFJ -1128</b>	<b>V2000A</b>

# THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

## THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

<b>CONSIDERATE</b>	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
<b>LOYAL</b>	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
<b>PROGRESSIVE</b>	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
<b>FRIENDLY</b>	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
<b>BALANCED</b>	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
<b>PATRIOTIC</b>	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

## VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website ([www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org)) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the RAG in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings





## RARA MARKETPLACE

Your commercial ad could be here! The RARA RAG can help spread the word on your business at very reasonable rates.

Contact us for details at [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org).

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Business Card	- 2 x 3.5	\$140
Quarter Page	- 4.2 x 3.5	\$300
	- 2 x 7.3	\$300
Half Page	- 4.2 x 7.3	\$600
	- 8.6 x 3.5	\$600

The above prices are **per year** - not per month as is typical in other publications.

Your advertisement will be seen by amateurs in Rochester, Monroe County, New York State, the United States and even the rest of the world. RAG circulation is approx. 8,000.

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We will make sure it finds a good home.

You will get a tax-deductible receipt  
and the satisfaction that comes with  
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Call 585-210-8910 or email  
[Secretary@RochesterHam.org](mailto:Secretary@RochesterHam.org).

RARA is an IRS 501.c.3 non-profit

Consult with your tax advisor.



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For more information: [Editor@RochesterHam.org](mailto:Editor@RochesterHam.org)

# RARA OFFICERS

## OFFICERS

<b>President:</b> Forest Shick, WA2MZG	(585) 721-1653	<a href="mailto:wa2mzg@arrl.net">wa2mzg@arrl.net</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b> Anand Choudri, KC2KPG	(585) 377-0759	<a href="mailto:kc2kpg@arrl.net">kc2kpg@arrl.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Brian O'Connor, KA2CGB	(585) 721-2346	<a href="mailto:ka2cgb@arrl.net">ka2cgb@arrl.net</a>
<b>Secretary:</b> Tim Guyot, KB1POP	(585) 406-3163	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## DEPARTMENT HEADS

<b>Raffle Administrators</b>	Jay Hamill, KC2TCM Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK	
<b>Club Historian</b>	Ed Gable, K2MP	
<b>Club Station Trustee</b>	Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	<a href="mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net">n2ixd@arrl.net</a>
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<b>Hamfest Co-Producers</b>	Tim Barrett, K9VB Anand Choudri, KC2KPG Tim Guyot, KB1POP	<a href="mailto:tim.k9vb@gmail.com">tim.k9vb@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:kc2kpg@arrl.net">kc2kpg@arrl.net</a> <a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a>
<b>License Testing Coordinator</b>	Don Kiser, AC2EV	<a href="mailto:dkiser100@gmail.com">dkiser100@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Media Communications</b>	Tim Guyot, KB1POP	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Webmaster</b>	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	<a href="mailto:wb2pyd@gmail.com">wb2pyd@gmail.com</a>



## JULY RAG DEADLINE

**JUNE 15, 2017**



**RARA meets at 7PM on the  
first **Wednesday** of each  
month; come join us at:**

**Seneca Waterways Council, BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd  
Rochester, New York 14623**

**Get Directions**

### **Rochester Area Repeater Listing**

### **THE RARA RAG**

Published by

Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY, 14692-8333  
Hotline – (585) 210- 8910  
Website – <http://www.rochesterham.org>

## **ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS**

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**Community Amateur Radio Club (CARC)**  
Joe Gangi, AC2NB: [ac2nb.carc@gmail.com](mailto:ac2nb.carc@gmail.com)

**Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP)**  
Gary Skuse, KA1NJL: [ka1njl@arrl.net](mailto:ka1njl@arrl.net)

**Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)**  
Alan Cook, K2MPE: [alancook948@gmail.com](mailto:alancook948@gmail.com)

**Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club**  
Jim Sutton, N2OPS: [jim@otrym.org](mailto:jim@otrym.org)

**Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.**  
Bill Boyd, N3DSP: [N3DSP@lafireline.net](mailto:N3DSP@lafireline.net)

**Monroe County ARES**  
Jim DiTucci, N2IXD: [n2ixd@arrl.net](mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net)

**Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)**  
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**Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)**  
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